



General Assembly

January Session, 2019

## ***Amendment***

LCO No. 10400



Offered by:

SEN. MCCRORY, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

REP. SANCHEZ, 25<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. MILLER P., 145<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1018

File No. 918

Cal. No. 547

### ***"AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP."***

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 10-266q of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

5 (a) On or before September fifteenth of each fiscal year in which  
6 payment is to be made, the State Board of Education shall authorize  
7 grant awards. [Grant awards] A grant award shall be authorized only  
8 after (1) [proposals] a proposal for such [grants have] grant has been  
9 submitted to the [commissioner] Commissioner of Education by the  
10 local board of education for a school [districts] district described in  
11 section 10-266p, as amended by this act, at such time and in such  
12 manner as the commissioner shall prescribe, and after the  
13 commissioner and [each] such school district have reached agreement  
14 regarding how such grant shall be [utilized] expended, or (2) for the

15 school years commencing July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2024, inclusive, the  
16 commissioner has developed a plan for the expenditure of such grant  
17 for a local board of education described in subdivision (3) of  
18 subsection (c) of this section in accordance with the provisions of said  
19 subdivision. Each proposal or plan shall be based on a three-year  
20 project plan and include, but not be limited to, an explanation of  
21 project goals, objectives, evaluation strategies and budget which shall  
22 identify local funding and other resource contributions for the three-  
23 year period. [provided proposals shall give priority to the  
24 development or expansion of extended-day kindergarten programs.]

25 (b) [A] Except as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this section,  
26 for the school year commencing July 1, 2019, and each school year  
27 thereafter, a priority school district grant shall be payable to the local  
28 board of education for [the] a school [districts] district described in  
29 section 10-266p, as amended by this act, which shall [use the funds]  
30 expend such grant for any of the following uses: (1) The creation or  
31 expansion of programs or activities related to dropout prevention, (2)  
32 alternative and transitional programs for students having difficulty  
33 succeeding in traditional educational programs, (3) academic  
34 enrichment, tutorial and recreation programs or activities in school  
35 buildings during nonschool hours and during the summer, (4)  
36 development or expansion of extended-day kindergarten programs, (5)  
37 development or expansion of [early reading intervention programs]  
38 scientifically-based reading research and instruction, as defined in  
39 section 10-14u, including summer and after-school programs, (6)  
40 enhancement of the use of technology to support instruction or  
41 improve parent and teacher communication, (7) initiatives to  
42 strengthen parent involvement in the education of children, and parent  
43 and other community involvement in school and school district  
44 programs, activities and educational policies, which may be in  
45 accordance with the provisions of section 10-4g, [or] (8) for purposes of  
46 obtaining accreditation for elementary and middle schools from the  
47 New England Association of Schools and Colleges, (9) numeracy  
48 instruction, or (10) support to chronically absent children, as defined in

49 section 10-198c, and reducing the district chronic absenteeism rate, as  
50 defined in section 10-198c. Each such board of education shall use at  
51 least twenty per cent of its grant for [early reading intervention  
52 programs] scientifically-based reading research and instruction, as  
53 defined in section 10-14u. Each such board of education shall use its  
54 grant to supplement existing programs or create new programs. If the  
55 State Board of Education finds that any such grant is being [used for  
56 other purposes] expended for uses other than those described in  
57 subdivisions (1) to (10), inclusive, of this subsection or is being used to  
58 decrease the local share of support for schools, it may require  
59 repayment of such grant to the state.

60 (c) (1) Not later than March 1, 2022, the Commissioner of Education  
61 shall determine whether the accountability index, as defined in section  
62 10-223e, for each local board of education for a school district  
63 described in section 10-266p, as amended by this act, has improved  
64 during the school years commencing July 1, 2018, to July 1, 2020,  
65 inclusive.

66 (2) For the school years commencing July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2024,  
67 inclusive, any such board whose accountability index has improved  
68 during the school years commencing July 1, 2018, to July 1, 2020,  
69 inclusive, shall (A) submit a proposal to the commissioner in  
70 accordance with the provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of  
71 this section, and (B) expend the priority school district grant for any of  
72 the uses described in subdivisions (1) to (10), inclusive, of subsection  
73 (b) of this section.

74 (3) For the school years commencing July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2024,  
75 inclusive, if the accountability index for any such board has not  
76 improved during the school years commencing July 1, 2018, to July 1,  
77 2020, inclusive, then the commissioner shall (A) develop a three-year  
78 plan for the expenditure of the priority school district grant for such  
79 board, and (B) expend such grant for any of the following uses: (i)  
80 Scientifically-based reading research and instruction, as defined in  
81 section 10-14u, (ii) numeracy instruction, and (iii) support to

82 chronically absent children, as defined in section 10-198c, and reducing  
83 the district chronic absenteeism rate, as defined in section 10-198c.

84 [(c)] (d) Each priority school district grant shall be awarded by the  
85 State Board of Education on an annual basis. Funding in subsequent  
86 years shall be based on funds available, annual application and  
87 program evaluation.

88 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-266p of the general statutes is  
89 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
90 *1, 2019*):

91 (a) The State Board of Education shall administer a priority school  
92 district grant program to assist certain school districts to improve  
93 student achievement and enhance educational opportunities. [The  
94 grant program shall include the priority school district portions of the  
95 grant programs established pursuant to sections 10-265f, 10-265m and  
96 10-266t.] The priority school district grant program [and its component  
97 parts] shall be for school districts in (1) the eight towns in the state  
98 with the largest population, based on the most recent federal decennial  
99 census, (2) towns which rank for the first fiscal year of each biennium  
100 from one to eleven when all towns are ranked in descending order  
101 from one to one hundred sixty-nine based on the number of children  
102 under the temporary family assistance program, as defined in  
103 subdivision (17) of section 10-262f, plus the mastery count of the town,  
104 as defined in subdivision (13) of section 10-262f, and (3) towns which  
105 rank for the first fiscal year of each biennium one to eleven when all  
106 towns are ranked in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-  
107 nine based on the ratio of the number of children under the temporary  
108 family assistance program as so defined to the resident students of  
109 such town, as defined in subdivision (22) of section 10-262f, plus the  
110 grant mastery percentage of the town, as defined in subdivision (12) of  
111 section 10-262f. The State Board of Education shall utilize the  
112 categorical grant program established under this section and sections  
113 10-266q and 10-266r, as amended by this act, and other educational  
114 resources of the state to work cooperatively with such school districts

115 during any school year to improve their educational programs or early  
116 reading intervention programs. [The component parts of the grant  
117 shall be allocated according to the provisions of sections 10-265f, 10-  
118 265m and 10-266t.] Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of section  
119 10-276a, the State Board of Education shall allocate one million dollars  
120 to each of the eight towns described in subdivision (1) of this  
121 subsection and five hundred thousand dollars to each of the towns  
122 described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection, except the  
123 towns described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not receive  
124 any additional allocation if they are also described in subdivision (2) or  
125 (3) of this subsection.

126 Sec. 3. Section 10-266r of the general statutes is repealed and the  
127 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2019*):

128 (a) The State Board of Education shall prepare an evaluation of the  
129 priority school district grant program not later than [December 15,  
130 1990] July 1, 2020, and [triennially] annually thereafter.

131 (b) Each school district participating in the [project] priority school  
132 district grant program shall prepare an annual [project] program  
133 evaluation, which shall include a description of program activities and  
134 [documentation of program improvement and student achievement]  
135 whether such program is (1) improving student achievement and  
136 enhancing educational opportunities in the school district, and (2)  
137 achieving the objectives and performance targets approved by the  
138 Commissioner of Education as stated in the proposal submitted by the  
139 school district pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section  
140 10-266q, as amended by this act, or the plan developed by the  
141 commissioner pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (c) of section  
142 10-266q, as amended by this act. Each such evaluation shall be  
143 submitted to the commissioner on or before August fifteenth of the  
144 fiscal year following each fiscal year in which the school district  
145 participated in the priority school district program.

146 (c) [Within] Not later than sixty days after the close of the school

147 year, each local board of education which received a priority school  
148 district grant shall file with the commissioner a financial statement of  
149 expenditures in such form as the commissioner shall prescribe. The  
150 State Board of Education shall periodically review grant payments  
151 made pursuant to this section in order to determine that such state  
152 funds received are being used for the purposes specified in the  
153 application. On or before December thirty-first of the fiscal year  
154 following the fiscal year in which payment was received, each local  
155 board which received a priority school district grant shall file with the  
156 commissioner a financial audit in such form as prescribed by the  
157 commissioner."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-266q
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-266p(a)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2019</i>	10-266r